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# TRAINING TIMES

Vol. 26 No. 12

Serving the 100th Area Support Group communities of Grafenwoehr, Hohenfels and Vilseck

June 21, 2005

# 'Prost' to partnership

# '95-60-50' events to end with fireworks on Fourth

#### USAG-GRAFENWOEHR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A flurry of festivities, culminating with Independence Day celebrations attended by German dignitaries, will bring to a close months of cross-cultural "95-60-50" observances in the 100th Area Support Group communities.

So called because they mark the 95th year of the Grafenwoehr Training Area, the 60th anniversary of the U.S. Army's postwar arrival in the area and the 50th year of the *Bundeswehr*'s existence, events began April 5 with a service in Grafenwoehr to commemorate the Allied bombing of the town in 1945.

The local military museum has featured an exhibit of period photographs and equipment titled 60 Years of the U.S. Army in Grafenwoehr. It will run through Aug. 31.

Nine German and American teams will tee off against one another in a golf tournament June 26, 4 p.m., in Koenigstein. Another is set for July 2 in Hohenfels. Call 476-2576 for details about either.

Vintage military vehicles will be on display in the Grafenwoehr city park on June 30. A German army band from Regensburg will give a concert at 6 p.m. on the *Marienplatz* (the town square); afterward, they will lead a march to the on-post water tower, where the corps will perform again. Beverages and food, including *Eintopf* (a type of stew) cooked by the *Bundeswehr*, will be sold.

During the city's *Buergerfest*, or "Citizen's Fest," July 2 and 3, local citizens will take hour-long bus tours of the Grafenwoehr Training Area, and the 100th ASG Morale, Welfare and Recreation staff will sell American ice cream. Bavarian fare will be offered too. Lt. Col. William Barbee, 100th ASG chaplain, will conduct an ecumenical service at the Grafenwoehr *Alte Pfarrkirche* July 3, 10 a.m.

German mayors and other officials will join military installations in celebrating America's birthday July 4.

In Vilseck, the annual party at Little Mike Lake, 1 to 4 p.m., will include food, entertainment and a *Kinderfest*.

A disc jockey will provide music behind the Grafenwoehr bowling center, 4 to 8 p.m., after which Fab Four will perform Beatles songs, as well as other '50s and '60s hits, until 11.

Hohenfels will hold a picnic on the *Sportplatz*, 4 to 7 p.m., with music, children's games, a chili cook-off, contests for the best barbecue sauce and dessert, and food. Grills will also be available. At 8, the bash will move to Kennedy Drive, where a band will play until midnight. Refreshments will be sold. Fireworks in each community will begin at 10:30.



Photo by Alice Adler

A Bavarian woman carries 10 liters of local brew to customers at last month's Hohenfels *Volksfest*, one of the '95-60-50' events celebrating German-American ties, which started April 5 and will continue through July 4.

Temperatures soared to summery heights, only to hover around freezing within a mere two weeks. Such unpredictability led 'Training Times' to wonder, "Would you prefer to be swelteringly hot or shiveringly cold?"



Cliff West "Hot: I hate snow."







Olga Torres "Hot: I'm from Russia, and I'm sick of cold weather."

Julie Herzog "Cold: Warm clothes are more comfortable."





Connor McLaughlin "Hot: We can go play outside more."

Interviews and photos by Alice Adler

## AFAP, forethought help Army stay strong, safe

BY GEN. B.B. BELL

U.S. ARMY EUROPE AND 7TH ARMY COMMANDER The Army Family Action Plan General Officer Steering Committee met in May to provide direction and review progress. Of the 28 issues from the November AFAP conference, 15 remain active, 10 were considered complete, and three were determined unattainable. USAREUR submitted the following:

- Funding for Department of **Defense Dependents Schools** summer school for kindergarten through 12th grade completed issue;
- Calculation of family subsistence supplemental allowance OCONUS — active.

Below are the committee's recommendations for the top conference issues that remain active:

- Eyeglasses for families -TriCare currently has no eyeglass coverage for family members of active-duty Soldiers and retirees. The committee recommended funding part of the cost for eyeglasses under TriCare, outsourcing eyeglass fabrication through vendors at a reduced price and providing Frame of Choice program services through military laboratories at cost.
- Expiration of TriCare referral authorizations TriCare automatically cancels the initial referral authorization when the beneficiary is unable to get an appointment with a specialty clinic or health-care provider within 28 days. The committee recommended eliminating this

automatic cancellation.

- **Child-care fees** Within each child-care category, families whose incomes are significantly different are paying the same fee. The committee recommended increasing the number of categories, to reduce the financial variance within each, and the number of fee ranges, to reflect the new categories while maintaining the existing fee-range parameters.
- Leave accrual Increased mission requirements allow little opportunity for Soldiers to use accrued leave. The committee recommended allowing them to accumulate and carry up to 90 days of leave until their expiration of term of service.

Although Army families are strong and resilient, the Global War on Terrorism presents constant challenges for them and for Army family-readiness programs. AFAP continues to meet these challenges by adopting new strategies to help families stay strong. I encourage you to be a part of the AFAP process and help make our great Army even better.

. . . . . . .

Our nation was founded by great visionaries who were willing to place the good of all Americans before their own needs. During our 229th celebration of independence, let us follow the example of our Founders and place the good of the Army and our fellow Soldiers, civilian employees and family members ahead of our own needs. Let us also take a moment

to remember all our Americans who are deployed in either combat or peace-enforcement operations. I thank each of you for your commitment and sacrifice.

As you celebrate our nation's birthday, I'd ask that you keep the following in mind: So far this fiscal year, U.S. Army Europe has lost five Soldiers, two Department of the Army civilians and two family members to vehicular crashes. We also lost three Soldiers to substance abuse. All deaths were preventable.

Whether you are traveling or enjoying water sports or other activities, please take time to assess the risks. Precombat checks and inspections are required during deployment. Lives depend on them. Make similar checks on yourself and your family before beginning your fun. For suggestions, visit www.per.hqusareur.army.mil and click on "Safety," then "Safety Campaigns," "USAREUR Summer Safety Campaign" and "Off-duty."

If you choose to drink alcohol, remember to drink responsibly and do not drive. Contact your unit prevention leader or the Army Substance Abuse Program for information on lowering your risks.

As you celebrate the Fourth of July, remember the fight for independence that led to the freedoms we cherish today. That tradition continues, and I am so very proud of each of you for your contributions to defending the principles on which our nation was founded. Our goal continues to be no loss of life. With that as your watchword, have a great but safe holiday.



Hiss to the handful of parents and coaches (I use that term loosely) who tried to take the fun out of the game of softball — and it is just a game — for my daughter at the 100th Area Support Group bantam girls' softball tournament June 11 and 12.

Your immature and unsportsmanlike conduct was an embarrassment to your daughters and their teammates.

On the bright side, you gave me a perfect opportunity to teach my



daughter the meaning of the word "class."

> Amy Boyd Grafenwoehr

Hurrah to Edward Jones of the 282nd Base Support Battalion Directorate of Logistics, one of 33 Installation Management Agency – Europe winners of Army in Europe Incentive Awards, presented June 7 in Heidelberg. Jones was cited for his cus-

tomer-service innovations, as well

as exceptional leadership and management skills.

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Submissions to Hisses and Hurrahs should be sent via e-mail to the editor at cara.matlock@graf.eur.army.mil, or faxed to 475-7935. Please include a brief description of the episode, along with your name and community, a telephone number or e-mail address, and the name of the person you deem worthy of mention, if known. Identities of those to be censured or criticized should not be revealed: We wish to invoke only private shame, not public stonings.

### Training Times

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# New mess hall gets taste of sweet success

### BY KATHY JORDAN TRAINING TIMES STAFF

After two months in operation, the Camp Normandy Dining Facility at Grafenwoehr won the large-garrison category of the European-level Philip A. Connelly Awards, announced May 5. Unveiled as part of the new Noncommissioned Officers' Academy at the end of March, it was named the Installation Management Agency–Europe's representative for the Department of the Army-level competition in December.

"Teamwork helped us win," said manager Gerhard Bessner. "We won because we worked as a team. They always do a great job. Our cooks cook great food. We get compliments from all the people that come to eat here. Every day, we give our customers our best."

Not all of them could be classified as regulars. Earlier this month for Exercise Torgau, the first U.S.-Russian coalition training event to be held in Germany, the staff fed 150 Russian troops, as well as 350 Americans. Added to their normal turnover, this meant that for one week, a facility that usually has 500 to 600 people per meal served 800 to 850. The staff received a certificate of appreciation from the 23rd Main Support Battalion for the role they played in Torgau, staying open long hours and preparing food for special events and daily training.

To qualify as a large garrison for Connelly, a dining facility must have a capacity of 401 or more. Those of all sizes must be "focused on doing it right the first time and maintaining the highest standards in food preparation and service," according to Michael Damico, manager of the IMA-E



Photo by Kathy Jordan

Pvt. Krystal Austin (left) and Spec. Sammye Harney serve Sgt. 1st Class Myron Truesdale a meal from the short-order line at the Camp Normandy Dining Facility.

headquarters food-service program.

Bessner explained why he and his staff take the job of serving troops so seriously.

"We like to give the Soldiers a home atmosphere," he said. "If the food is good, the morale of the Soldier is good. The Soldiers train hard. They need a good meal so they can go back to work and perform."

To add variety, the facility hosts a theme day every week, usually on Thursdays, to offer dishes that celebrate different cultures.

"Last week we had an Italian meal, the week before we had a German-type meal, and next week we will have an AfricanAmerican meal menu," Bessner said. "We want everybody who eats here to get the feeling that they are back home."

He added that although recipes must be approved by the Department of the Army, and cards are used to prepare food according to regulations, the staff is encouraged to take initiative.

"We are like a restaurant; we can create our own menus."

They also make sandwiches to order with more than 15 kinds of cold cuts, compared to the military standard of 10. Norms are also exceeded in the food line, where

everything is self-serve, except the meats, allowing diners to determine their own portion sizes.

"We have three different meats on the main line; the military standard is two meats," Bessner began. "We have four starches and three or four vegetables, and we have four salads. This is over the standards. ...We go the extra mile for our customers."

To set themselves further apart from other facilities in the area, the staff does a few extra things. They have discussions each week and hold monthly council meetings with unit representatives to find out how they can make meals better.

Such dedication has earned this freshly opened facility a distinction that many mess halls are never able to attain. Now in its 38th year, the Connelly Awards were named after a former president of the International Food Service Executive Association. By making those in the field of Army food service more focused on education and career development, the program has improved the quality of meals for troops.

Food-service officer Sandra Kristiansen said that Bessner and his staff worked hard every day, and that winning was an honor they richly deserved.

"They all take pride in what they do ...," she said. "They give courteous service to every Soldier — quality food and quality service."

Hubert Niles, a cook, was one of many employees who said that their "secrets" were simply persistence and teamwork.

"It feels great to win something you worked so hard to achieve," he said. "It shows that if you give your best, work hard and listen, and follow directions, then you will have a great team."

## In brief

#### Drug recall

Three varieties of Children's Tylenol have been recalled because information on the package might be confusing and lead to excessive dosages.

Only one of these products — wacky watermelon-flavored Meltaways, 80-milligram bottle, UPC# 300450516300 — is carried by European commissaries. It has been removed from shelves, and customers who purchased this product may return it for a full refund.

For more information, log on to www.tylenol.com or www.fda.gov.

#### Mixed signals

Because of updates to the closed-circuit television system in May, some viewers may have lost reception of the Command Information Channel.

Anyone who has should phone the USAG–Grafenwoehr Public Affairs Office at 475-6417.

#### Office moves

- Through June 24, most of the Directorate of Emergency Services located in building 123 on Grafenwoehr will be moving to building 2099 on Vilseck. The remainder will move July 11. Service will not be disrupted at either time. For more information, call Maj. Robert Ray, the new director, at 476-1580/1380.
- The Grafenwoehr Civilian Personnel Advisory Center is closed through June 24 for its move into building 244 (next to gate 3). Customer service will reopen in the new location June 23. Phone numbers will not change.
- The Installation Access Control System office in Grafenwoehr will be closed June 29 and 30 while it relocates to building 244, room 117.



Photo by Kathy Jordan

#### One good turn

Vilseck High School seniors reposition the tassels on their mortarboards to signify their graduation during a ceremony June 11 at the *Congress Centrum* in Amberg. Receiving diplomas were Brandon Allen, Anthony Amabile, Holly Arbolay, Juan-Carlos Aviles, Viola Beddingfield, Eric Bohn, Reginald Bromwell, Jennifer Bundy, Danielle Cassell, Eboney Chambers, Christina Clark, Jennifer Clifton, Roger Connolly, Janet Dunn (salutatorian), Julia Dunn (valedictorian), Justin Fauland, Lavandant Foster, Terrikka Foust, Christina Funderburk, Raquel Glenn, Ashley Goldsmith, Emmanuel Gonzalez, Ashley Hibbler, Cherad Hickmon, Katharina Jackson, Diana Johnson, Benjamin Landy, Will Lewis, Jessica Linka, Jessica Macaras, Kevin Mennona, Sarah Newsome, Prince Osiang, Krista Perry, Kevin Pollock, Bailey Rivera, Brittany Robinson, Daniel Rodgers, Keith Rodriguez, Jamie Roush, Kel'Aine Smith, Gregory Stanford, Chrishona Thomas, Jeron Townsend, Steven Tracey, Aaron Vernon, Elizabeth Watsek, Jessica Wilcox, Faith Wilner and Sarah Young.



Photos by Alice Adler

Movers pack a crate for a permanent change of station overseas. After shipments have gone, Soldiers may prefer to go elsewhere.

## Betwixt and between: roof over your heads

BY MAJ. J. SCOTT GILLESPIE USAG-G PLANS AND OPERATIONS

Soldiers and family members who are moving to another duty station, separating from the Army or retiring have three options for transient quarters.

The first, available only to those living in government or government-leased housing, is to remain there until the day of departure. Upon receipt of orders, the Soldier should visit the housing office to schedule a preliminary inspection and a final one. During the latter, he will be instructed to fix any problems. Once cleared, those who opt to stay in their quarters will keep their keys.

The housing office can arrange for a delivery of government furniture on the day household goods are picked up. Linens, televisions, microwave ovens or other appliances will not be provided, however.

On the last day, keys must be returned to the housing office. After duty hours, they may be placed in drop boxes.

Alternatively, Soldiers can use their temporary living allowances to be billeted on post or in a local Gasthaus. The authorized length of stay is three days after vacating government or governmentleased quarters and 10 days upon termination of a private rental contract.

After requesting TLA from the housing office, Soldiers are responsible for making reservations. Those who stay on post will not be charged; paperwork will be sent to the housing office. To check availability, visit https:// www.100thasg.mwr.army.mil/ armylodging or contact the Kristall Inn, 476-1700 or kristallinn@graf.eur.army.mil; the Tower Inn, 475-1700 or

towerinn@graf.eur.army.mil; or the Sunrise Lodge, 466-1700. Off-post accommodations will require that

bills be settled at the front desk. Lastly, Soldiers who terminate private leases may be allowed temporary lodging in government quarters, furnished except for linens and appliances. Those interested should inquire at housing.

For more information, call your local housing office at 475-6245, 476-2808 or 466-2616.

# Heading home How to out-process, update your passport and find a place to stay Fundamental matters Are your Make this move smooth

BY MAJ. J. SCOTT GILLESPIE USAG-G Plans and Operations

To help relocating Soldiers and their families meet the many expenses that a permanent change of station requires, a number of financial perks are available.

#### Advance pay

Servicemembers are eligible for advance pay 30 days prior to the availability date on their PCS orders. The amount is equivalent to base pay minus deductions from the most recent leave-andearnings statement (e.g., taxes, life insurance and Thrift Savings Plan), and repayment is prorated over 12 months.

Military personnel may request one advance before departing and another at their next duty station.

To apply, fill out DD Form 2560 and attach one copy of your orders. Ranks of E4 and below must have the signature block completed and signed by their commander, but E5s and above may sign for themselves.

### **Dislocation allowance**

For Soldiers who have dependents living with them, dislocation allowance is also authorized.

\$ If two Soldiers are married but have no children, one is authorized DLA at the withoutdependent rate, and normally the more senior one applies. If they have children, one servicemember may draw DLA at the withdependent rate.

\$ Single E7s and above living off post are eligible for DLA at the without-dependent rate. Those who reside in bachelor enlisted or officers' quarters are not, nor are single E6s and below.

\$ Soldiers whose family members are not with them in Germany may apply for DLA at their new duty station when those dependents arrive.

Advances in DLA may be requested 10 working days prior to the PCS date. To apply, submit six copies of your orders, one of your flight itinerary, a leave form, and your bank account and routing numbers. Allow 10 more working days for the deposit to clear.

#### Basic allowance for housing

The overseas flat rate of basic allowance for housing is known as

"BAH II." To begin drawing this, complete DA Form 5690. A termination letter from the housing office, whether for government quarters or private rentals, is required as well.

Single Soldiers who plan to take leave during relocation are entitled to BAH II at the withoutdependent rate. Those living in barracks because their dependents have gone to the United States on orders for early return of dependents should be receiving this allowance at the rate for their new zip code.

#### Temporary lodging allowance

Servicemembers who vacate government quarters or terminate their overseas housing allowance are also reimbursed for temporary lodging (see Betwixt and between).

At the housing office, obtain a TLA authorization letter, specifying whether your billet should be equipped with a kitchen, and take this to Kristall Inn, Tower Inn or Sunrise Lodge for a stamp.

Finally, take the stamped letter, along with one copy of orders, to the finance desk of your outprocessing center.

## In-flight creature comforts

BY MAJ. J. SCOTT GILLESPIE

USAG-G PLANS AND OPERATIONS Although pet travel is not among Soldier entitlements, devoted own-

ers would not forego this expense. Those making permanent changes of station to the continental United States may make reservations with Air Mobility Command well in advance. If approved, no more than two pets may be shipped, and both must be entered on orders. The fee is about \$95 each.

All airlines contracted as carriers for the Department of Defense will ship pets at the owner's request with 24 to 48 hours' notice. For about \$110, pets may travel as "excess baggage" in the cargo hull, though many airlines impose restrictions in the summertime. SATO can also make arrangements through Pet Air, or call 069-690-71-915/916. Another option is Gradylyn Kennels, 069-960-50-081. Both offer pickup service throughout Germany, and Pet Air will

supply cages. To travel by air, dogs and cats must be at least 8 weeks old and weaned.

All animals must have two copies of a health certificate fewer than nine days old at the time of the flight, proof of a current rabies vaccination given 30 or more days ago, two copies of orders (if applicable) to simplify customs clearance, and a complete address and phone number in America.

If you are unable to get an appointment at your veterinary treatment facility, the staff can provide a list of German veterinarians.

Remember that Hawaii, certain U.S. territories and some foreign Your carrier can provide details.

#### On board

Kennels must be enclosed and large enough for the animal to stand, sit and lie in a natural position. They must be easy to open, strong and free of objects that could injure your pet.

★ Floors must be solid, leakproof and covered with absorbent material. Secondary floors made of wire or otherwise ventilated are generally allowed,

but pegboard flooring is prohibited. At least 14 percent of the total wall space must consist of ventilation openings, one-third of which should be on the top half.

Each species must have its own kennel, with the exception of compatible cats and dogs of similar size. Maximum occupancy is two puppies or kittens under 6 months and 20 pounds each, 15 guinea pigs or rabbits, and 50 hamsters. Check to ensure your airline does not have additional restrictions.

and watering over a 24-hour period must be attached to the kennel. You must also certify that your pet has been offered food and water within the previous four hours and include the time and date.

Food and water dishes must be securely attached and accessible without opening the kennel. Food and water must be given to puppies and kittens 8 to 16 weeks old every 12 hours. Older animals must be fed every 24 hours and watered every 12.

## papers in order? BY MAJ. J. SCOTT GILLESPIE

USAG-G PLANS AND OPERATIONS

Because passports are required for all travel to the United States, make certain that yours is current. For those who have never

held a U.S. passport, acquir ing one takes six to eight weeks. Applicants must fill out Form DS 11 — except for the signature block — and take it to the passport office, along with an original birth certificate or naturalization papers, two photos, and a completed money order for \$97 made out to the American General Consulate. Cash or personal checks are not accepted. These documents will be processed at the on-post passport office. To make an appointment, call 476-3043 or 466-2547. Walk-

ins will not be seen. Children under 14 whose parents are not applying for a passport must have the signatures and photo ID cards of both, one of whom must be present. A parent who has sole custody must show a notarized letter of consent from the other.

Children 14 to 17 must sign their own applications and submit a photo ID from one parent who is a U.S. citizen.

To renew a passport, fill out Form DS 82 but do not sign it. Take this by appointment (see phone numbers above) to the office, along with an old passport, two photos and a money order. The fee for adults (18 and over) is \$67.

TASC will make passport photos at no charge. Call 476-2814 or 466-2277 for more information. Those taken in a German studio must be American-sized.

Order divorce decrees and certificates of births, deaths or marriages online at www.vitalchek.com or www.vitalrec.com. For information, phone (800) 255-2414.

BY ED JONES 282ND BASE SUPPORT BATTALION PPPO

Always the peak season for permanent changes of station, the summer will see an overwhelming number of moves this year, because of the Army's transformation and rotations of contingency Soldiers.

Businesses that ship and move personal property and privately owned vehicles are saturated with work requests, which makes finding an available carrier difficult. It also means you might be unable to confirm packing and pickup dates until the day beforehand and that confirmed dates could be changed because of problems with previous jobs. Whether your move is for a PCS, an expiration of term of service or retirement, you should expect delayed deliveries of personal property and vehicles.

The suggestions below may help to reduce move-related stress.

#### Household goods

Report to the transportation office immediately after you receive orders and try to make personal property shipments early. Tell transportation officials your shipment and travel plans, so that they may inform you of all entitlements, enabling you to make the best decisions. Remain flexible with departure, packing

and pickup dates. Complete the inventory checklist as accurately as possible to estimate the weight of your shipment and determine the time required to complete your job. Plan to ship unaccompanied

baggage first, then household goods. If you have property in nontemporary storage in the United States, you can arrange for it to be delivered through your local transportation office or the one at your destination, once you

obtain quarters. Before your packing date, lock items that should not be shipped in a safe location — inside a room or your car. Busy movers will pack everything in sight, including passports, purses and expensive items. Reopening a crate to search for things is costly, and the financial responsibility will be yours.

#### Vehicles

Shipping your POV to the United States can be problematic if it does not have Department of Transportation and Environmental Protection Agency labels, which U.S. Customs requires to prove compliance with federal safety standards.

The manufacturer affixes these labels, but after an accident or during repairs they may be removed or covered with paint. The DoT label is normally inside the doorjamb, and the EPA one on the engine compartment.

According to U.S. TransCar, vehicles without these labels will not be shipped. If customs officials find other discrepancies, they will not release your vehicle until these have been corrected.

Those who wish to ship vehicles that do not have these labels should contact the manufacturer with the vehicle identification

label. For assistance, call 466-2760/2860/2101 or Manfred Schueler at 475-7470.

#### Air travel

Small SATO staffs make official and leisure travel arrangements, and because each reservation takes 15 to 25 minutes, the wait can be long. Please be patient and do not phone, as these calls distract from customers in the office and may be transferred to England. Bear in mind the following:

→ Official travel tickets can only be issued to your next duty station. SATO cannot offer a government fare for leisure travel. During a move, any place other than the PCS location is considered such. If you plan to take leave en route, you must purchase leisure tickets from SATO and be reimbursed through finance and accounting at the lower rate. SATO can, however, offer a lower fare to the POV shipping point, as long as it is not beyond the PCS destination (proof of shipping is required).

→ U.S. "flagged," or contracted, air carriers must be used for official travel. If one of these is not your airline of choice, you must purchase a leisure ticket, except in cases of nonavailability

→ SATO cannot accept payment for a fare beyond regular ernment cost.

→ Air Mobility Command from Frankfurt to Baltimore is also available. AMC flights have been upgraded from economy to business class. Special meals,

including vegetarian, kosher, diabetic and youth, are served and may be requested through SATO. During the in-flight movie, chips, cookies and candy bars are available, and children 12 and under receive cases or backpacks filled with game books, puzzles,

crayons and other activities.

#### Airport shuttles

Although the free Vilseck service offered by the Directorate of Logistics has been temporarily suspended because of low usage and a high number of cancellations, the 100th Area Support Group hopes to begin a daily one to Munich, Nuremberg and Frankfurt beginning July 1. Pets will not be allowed. Interested Soldiers should speak to Bianca Miller during final out-processing in building 700.

Outdoor Recreation offices in

Grafenwoehr and Vilseck operate shuttles to Munich and Nuremberg. Reservations are required 72 hours in advance, and an on-post building number or a strip map must be provided, along with an itinerary and payment in full. Nuremberg fees are \$60 for one to two people and \$70 for three to four; for Munich, they are \$120 for one to three and \$140 for four to six (\$10 for each additional person). This expense is reimbursable at the gaining or servicing installation. For more details, call 475-7402 or 476-2563.

In Hohenfels, the 64th Replacement Company runs a bus to Frankfurt on weekdays. Phone DSN 330-6115 for the schedule.

## Custom of country: selling automobiles abroad

#### BY MAJ. J. SCOTT GILLESPIE USAG-G Plans and Operations

Anyone who does not wish to ship his privately owned vehicle to the United States must dispose of it properly. Two ways of doing so are selling and junking.

To sell or junk a vehicle to a dealership or a non-ID cardholder, you must present the following items to on-post customs officials:

- **⇒** Bill of sale stating price received or amount paid to junk the vehicle;
- ⇒ Valid vehicle registration; Name and address of buyer (person or dealership);
- Buyer's passport number;

= Lien release or title.

Upon receipt of these documents, customs will provide a stamped torm with a control number

You and the buyer must then go to the customs, or "Zoll," office in Amberg to obtain another stamp. The buyer will be assessed fees depending on the price of the vehicle.

Finally, all paperwork and tags must be taken to vehicle registration for clearance.

For more information, call your local customs office at 476-2105/ 2106 or 466-2012, or log on to the military police customs Web site at www.hqusareur.army.mil/opm/ customs.htm.



Patrick Gallagher shops in the Hohenfels used-car lot. Selling to someone who does not have a U.S. ID card involves customs.

A guard marches to and fro in front of **Buckingham Palace** (right), home and office for Queen Elizabeth II. In a pomp-filled ceremony each morning at 11:30, fresh guards march in, accompanied by much fanfare, to relieve their comrades. The **Changing of the Guard** takes place behind the palace gates (below), so that staking out a spot early is essential.



# POT IN LONG ON Story and photos by Alice Adler







The twin spires of Westminster Abbey (left) seem to dissolve in the infamous London fog. The clock tower at the Houses of Parliament with its four 24-foot faces (above) is renowned. Less known is the fact that "Big Ben" is not the nickname of the edifice but its largest chime,

When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life; for there is in London all that life can afford.

- Samuel Johnson, 18th-century literary figure

King and queens, rock stars and poets, generals and expatriates have taken up residence in London, and centuries of such varied influences have made the city abundant in culture and diverse in countrymen. In this booming capital, even the finicky can find something to suit their fancies.

Nearly every visitor braves the lines to see the notorious Tower of London, where many historical figures were imprisoned, some of whom literally lost their heads as the cap to their stay. The breathtaking crown jewels are also ensconced there, as well as 40,000 pieces of arms and armor, including an enormous suit once worn by the portly Henry VIII. The Yeoman Warders, better known as the Beefeaters, continue to live in the complex with their families and give free hour-long tours embellished with colorful anecdotes. The Tower ravens are registered inhabitants too, and legend has it that, as long as these large black birds remain, the fortress will stand.

The magnificence of Westminster Abbey befits the site on which British monarchs are crowned and a host of them interred. The interior of the English Gothic church is filled with statues, tombs and memorials; rent one of the handheld earpieces for a full audio-tour.

London's other great religious building is St. Paul's Cathedral. People around the world got their first look inside when Lady Diana Spencer walked up its grand aisle to wed Prince Charles. Ascend the 259 steps to the Whispering Galley for the best vantage point of the beautiful nave. Continue climbing, and a peerless view of the city will be your reward.

Military history buffs have at their disposal numerous museums devoted to martial and maritime subjects, but the Imperial War Museum trumps them all.

Housed in what was once Bedlam, a mental hospital whose name is now used to denote utter pandemonium anywhere, it contains one of the most comprehensive exhibits on the First and Second World Wars to be found. Tanks, uniforms, documents, paintings, Lawrence of Arabia's rifle, first drafts of Wilfred Owen's poetry from World War I, and a fake tree trunk used to hide a sniper are just a few of the items on display.

The highly unfavorable exchange rate might make Americans put off a trip to London, but an enjoyable vacation there is possible without spending a king's ransom. Several of the best museums and attractions charge no admission, and others offer U.S. servicemembers and their families discounts of up to 50 percent.

Because meals can be pricey there, cut costs by eating in one of the thousands of cleverly christened pubs, which serve thick sandwiches, chunks of creamy cheese and other hearty fare at a fraction of restaurant prices.

London's excellent subway system, officially called the Underground but dubbed "the Tube" by locals, extends to the suburbs, which makes finding an inexpensive hotel with downtown access a little easier than in most cities.

The strength of the pound makes retail therapy rather extravagant at the moment, but some shopping districts count as tourist attractions. The sensationally popular Harrod's department store is worth a visit if only to gawk at the sheer volume of things for sale. Piccadilly Circus, with its flashing neon lights, is the riotous junction of five major thoroughfares encompassing hundreds of shops and a number of cinemas and theaters. In the Swinging '60s, Carnaby Street and King's Road were virtually synonymous with fashion; today they are lined with eateries and quirky boutiques.

Besides, window-shopping — along with people-watching — is always free.



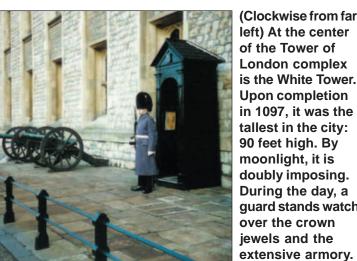
which weighs nearly 14 tons. Erected in 1894, Tower Bridge spans the River Thames, both symbols of London.



As its name implies, Piccadilly Circus is one of the city's busiest spots (above). In contrast, St. Paul's Cathedral (below) is an oasis of calm. The majestic Baroque interior was designed by Christopher Wren in 1672. The Great Fire of London destroyed the previous cathedral in 1666.







left) At the cente of the Tower of London complex is the White Tower. **Upon completion** in 1097, it was the tallest in the city: 90 feet high. By moonlight, it is doubly imposing. During the day, a guard stands watch over the crown iewels and the extensive armory.

## Young Authors' Day touts local talent

BY KATHY JORDAN
TRAINING TIMES STAFF

Joy Patz loves books – so much so that she thinks more should be written, and the sooner, the better. Since 1992, she has encouraged children to become young authors, beginning with her second-grade class in America and, for the past four years, students at Grafenwoehr Elementary School.

Her program has attracted such a fan base that attendees of Young Authors' Day May 23 could visit 18 little nooks, where their peers read five-minute passages of their works aloud. Afterward, these books became part of the school library's collection, for media-center visitors to peruse.

Patz, who teachers third grade, said the event had grown through word of mouth. "Now other children want to do it too," she said. "It has blossomed."

Sixth-grade teacher Katie Schneider has worked with Patz for three years, and the two women's classes made their books in tandem.

"It was interesting to see that some of my third-graders were able to help some of her sixth-graders ... [and] could provide a lot of the illustrations," said Patz.

Schneider described what it took to become a published author in Grafenwoehr.

"We make them redo their work," she said.
"They have to edit it." She explained that
although most classes practiced some form
of the five-step writing process (plan, draft,
revise, edit and publish), she and Patz
produced the finished works to bring the
students wider notice.



Photo by Kathy Jordan

Julia Cavagna (left) and Alisha Brooks practice reading aloud books they wrote before their audience arrives for Young Authors' Day, held May 23 at the school.

Third-grader Lukas Heath, for instance, wrote a 24-page mystery about a golden scepter.

"It surprises you when you find out the answer," he promised.

His classmate Kendrik Goins, whose previous subject was dogs, chose a more unusual creature this year.

"I wrote about aliens, because I never wrote a book about aliens before," he said. "This year my book is about something totally different."

Sixth-grader Mark Eastman tackled the topic of football, his favorite sport.

"I had a lot of fun writing it," he recalled, "and I think I could write another story even better."

Thea Dunn, also in sixth grade, dedicated her tale of a girl's journey with her grandfather through a mystical desert to the man who inspired it. "My granddad used to tell me stories, and this is kind of part of one of his stories," she said.

Sixth-grader Alisha Brooks and third-grader Julia Cavagna had teamed up to pen tomes.

"I did a rhyming book because I like rhymes," said Brooks. "I would suggest other kids write a book to show that you can do stuff."

Cavagna added, "I want to help kids ... read more. I want them to learn more and let their imagination grow stronger."

That, according to Patz, is the ultimate goal.

"When you learn to write, you learn to read," she said. "When you learn to read, you learn to write; you become a reader. It's all interconnected. It becomes more personalized. Once they learn how to read a story from their own writing, they start looking at everything."

Teri Motton, a fourth-grade teacher who had taken her class to the event, spoke of this progression too.

"Having younger children in here, they get to see a writing process that has occurred ... and usually, when they walk out, they want to do these types of books as well," she said. "They see the reading and writing connection and how they do correlate."

Fifth-grade teacher Janice Campbell agreed.

"It's part of the growing process," she began. "When my older students see the younger students work at reading and writing, it helps to reinforce what we have been teaching in the upper grades: that reading and writing are important, and it starts at a young age."

# Students bitten by gardening bug pitch in to beautify school grounds

BY ALICE ADLER
TRAINING TIMES STAFF

A crop of green thumbs has sprouted at Hohenfels Elementary School. Students in the local garden club celebrated the end of their first year with a party June 9, devouring ice cream to the musical accompaniment of school gardener and avid accordionist Hans Kaiser.

Over the past year, the 10 members, all fifth- and sixth-graders, met every Thursday after school, learning to grow and care for plants of all kinds under the tutelage of Lisa Zimmerman.

Founded in the fall, the club was limited to the first 10 children who signed up. Zimmerman, who teaches fifth grade, said she had begun recruiting after a student asked her whether a rock was a living thing. Realizing that many others had limited exposure to the natural world, she decided to start the club.

"I wanted to increase students' awareness of their environment and help them develop empathy for living things," she said.

The children spent their first season taking nature walks, exploring the outdoors and assuming responsibility for the plants that line school corridors. Watering, fertilizing and repotting were their duties, as well as keeping classmates from harming their charges.

Over the winter, the members continued to care for the indoor plants and kept journals, recording what they did right and what they did wrong. They also put out feeders to help the local birdlife.

The garden club really began to bloom, however, in the spring.

Zimmerman approached Kaiser about creating an outdoor area where the students could put down roots. Kaiser submitted a work request, and soon two large raised beds had been constructed. When principal Susan Martz-Cothran donated supplies for the project, the members were ready to grow.

They started seedlings inside and nurtured them until they could be moved to the new beds. Marigolds, strawberries, raspberries and nasturtiums were all planted outside, along with geraniums from the local self-help store and a few tulip bulbs.

Zimmerman said the children had become increasingly enthusiastic about their new hobby, volunteering their lunch breaks and recesses to fertilize, water and weed.

"They begged to go outside and care for the plants," she said. Their eagerness became rampant, so that students who were not officially members often asked to help out.

"I liked being a gardener," Jasmin Parada said.

For some, the experience in the club had a big impact.
"I'm the one who maintains the

flowers at home," reported
Gabby Gonzalez.

"I liked the planting part" said

"I liked the planting part," said Omar Brown. "I want to be a naturalist."

Others enjoyed the earthiness of it all. Lathe Brown, for one, admitted, "I liked touching worms." And Kody Hatch reflected that, amongst the many lessons he had learned, perhaps the most important was "don't trust Lathe with the watering."

Gabby Gonzalez waters while Tatyana Foster weeds the garden club's beds at Hohenfels Elementary.

Photo by Alice Adler



## German culture 101

# Logging, kidnapping make tying knot labor of love

BY MARTINA BIAS SPECIAL TO TRAINING TIMES

Spotting a newly married couple on their wedding day in Germany is easy. Their car, covered with beautiful flowers, moves very slowly (so that the decorations won't blow off) and leads a trail of automobiles, each sporting a white ribbon on its antenna.

Nuptials begin with a civil ceremony in the registry office of the city hall, and most couples then go to their church for a religious ceremony. German wedding parties do not have maids of honor, but they may include flower girls or boys and *Trauzeuge*, or "wedding witnesses" – one for the bride and another for the groom.

Afterward, the couple and their guests gather at a *Gasthaus* or restaurant for the celebration. As my new husband and I were leaving the church after our wedding, my mother stuffed the pockets of his uniform with coins. I still remember the puzzled look on his face, but he soon found out why he would need them. As our convoy entered my village, we were stopped by children who had blocked the road by holding a ribbon across it. I instructed my husband to throw the coins, which he did. As our hindrances scrambled to collect the money, they dropped the ribbon, and we were free to proceed.

At our destination, the next trial awaited: a big log that we had to halve using a handsaw with a handle on either end. This represents working together, and there is nothing to equal logging work done in a wedding dress, I assure you.

This hurdle taken, we were greeted at the door by a woman offering us champagne and pieces of bread topped with salt, symbolizing that our lives would be free of hunger and thirst. Less sentimental is the belief that



Photo by Jana Richter

Americans AnnMarie Powers-Nordvall and her new husband, Christopher, give a nod to local custom during their wedding festivities at Dagestein castle in Vilseck April 16, as they work to saw the traditional German nuptial log in half.

whoever finishes eating and drinking first will wear the pants during the marriage.

When these issues have been settled, the couple and their guests sit down to a bounty of food. Our festivities featured a three-course lunch, the customary coffee and cake in the afternoon, a roast pig for dinner and a midnight snack. My in-laws joked that every time they stepped outside after a meal, they returned to a table already being set for the next one.

During breaks in the feasting, the couple might pose for pictures or open presents.

Meanwhile, a few of the younger guests will look for an opportunity to catch the bride without her new husband and "kidnap" her for a bout of barhopping. As they advance, quaffing champagne and leaving open tabs at each place they visit, the groom must follow their trail, paying checks until he catches up with his wife. Because this can be an expensive outing, most grooms stick closely to their brides all day long. Some go so far as to accompany them to the ladies' room, though in such cases, the kidnappers have been known to abduct the bride

through the bathroom window.

The newlyweds share the first dance, usually a waltz. Next, the bride dances with her father-in-law, and the groom with his mother-in-law. For the rest of the night, the bride will try to dance with each of the men, while the groom will ask every woman present.

Similar to the throwing of the garter belt and the tossing of the bridal bouquet is the German tradition called "den Schleier austanzen," or "to dance out the veil." The bride stands blindfolded in the middle of the floor, and all the unmarried women form a circle around her. A tune is played, and they walk around her, holding hands, until the music stops. Then, arms outstretched, the bride steps forward and taps the next to be wed. The groom does the same with the bachelors. Often, a bandleader privy to a possible engagement will influence these selections. Finally, the chosen two will don the veil and the groom's jacket, respectively, and dance to the next song together.

In America, the newlyweds are frequently the first to leave their reception, but a German couple must stay until the last guest says goodbye. (At our wedding, that was at 3:30 a.m.; so much for a romantic evening!) Once in the privacy of their bedroom, they might find that pranksters have stuffed it full of balloons or placed burning candles all over the floor. Of course, some of the guests may have gotten the groom so drunk that these frivolities simply blur before his eyes.

Outside the couple's residence, well-wishers hang colorful signs depicting baby clothes, carriages and toys. This is not an implication that pregnancy was the reason for the marriage but a hope that the pair will be blessed with children soon.

## Wedding soup perfect match for joyous meal

BY MARTINA BIAS

SPECIAL TO TRAINING TIMES

*Hochzeitsuppe*, or "wedding soup," is a traditional first course for feasts in Germany, especially those eaten as part of nuptial celebrations.

It traditionally consists of a flavorful broth abundant with a variety of little specialties. Each region has its own version, but the most popular additions are different types of dumplings, including *Griesskloesschen*; *Eierstich*, a steamed custard cut into cubes; *Backerbsen*, literally "baked peas" but actually fried droplets of dough; and miniature noodles.

As a light beginning to a festive meal, try making *Hochzeitsuppe* with only the recipes given below, all of which can easily be prepared in advance and added to hot broth just before serving. Others for liver and marrow dumplings will be featured in an upcoming edition. *Guten Appetit!* 

Griesskloesschen

1/2 cup milk 3 tablespoons butter or margarine

4 tablespoons tapioca

1 egg

Pinch nutmeg

1 teaspoon dried parsley

Heat a potful of salted water.

In a small saucepan, bring milk, butter and pinch of salt to a boil. Add tapioca, stirring constantly. Over low heat, continue to stir until mixture forms a smooth dough that pulls away from bottom of pot. Cool slightly.

Add egg, nutmeg and parsley and stir again until smooth. Wet a teaspoon and form small oval dumplings from mixture. Drop into hot salted water and boil gently until they float to surface. Remove from water.

Yield: About 16

Eierstich

2 eggs 1/2 cup milk 1/4 teaspoon salt Pinch nutmeg

Whisk all ingredients together in a bowl. Pour into small heat-resistant (porcelain, for example) dish that has been greased. Wrap dish in aluminum foil.

Choose a pot large enough to accommodate dish, fill with an inch or two of water, depending on height of dish, and bring to a boil. Place dish into boiling water (it should not be immersed), return water to boiling point and reduce heat. Cover and let dish sit in simmering water for about 30 minutes for egg mixture to firm up.

Remove dish from pot, unwrap carefully and invert onto plate. Cut custard into small cubes.

Yield: About 1 1/2 cups

Backerbsen

1/2 cup flour 1 egg 6 tablespoons water Pinch salt Oil for deep frying

Whisk flour, egg, water and salt in a bowl until smooth dough forms.

Heat oil in deep pan or Fry Daddy. Place large-holed sieve over hot oil. A small batch at a time, let dough drip through holes, thus forming balls about the size of garbanzo beans.

Deep fry until golden brown. Drain on paper towels. Yield: About 3 cups

#### Hochzeitsuppe

Place desired quantity of *Griesskloesschen* and *Eierstich* in individual soup bowls.

Cook tiny noodles in your favorite broth until done. Add noodles and broth to bowls, scatter over *Backerbsen*, and sprinkle with fresh parsley or chives.

If you have ever wondered why Germans do certain things, or if you have a favorite German dish and would like to recreate it at home, e-mail your questions and comments to martina.bias@us.army.mil. One of your suggestions could be used for a future column.

#### Off post

- The *a cappella* rock group Harmony Central will give an open-air concert at the Volksschule in Velburg June 25, 8:30 p.m. Advance tickets cost 8 euros for adults and 6 euros for children under 15; they are available in town at the German post office and the Foto Shop. Admission at the event will be 10 and 8 euros, respectively.
- Rebstockbad, near Frankfurt, will host German-American Family Day July 2, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Splash about in the indoor and outdoor pools or play beach volleyball. The festivities will also feature games for children and a cookout. Admission is 8 euros per family. For a map, visit www.bbffrankfurt.de/Pdf/Rebstockflyer.pdf. To go on the Information, Tickets and Reservations office's bus, call 475-7402 or 476-2360.

#### Libraries

#### Grafenwoehr

Get estimates on your flea-market finds during the Antique Appraisal Fair July 18, 2 to 4 p.m. Call 475-1740 for details.

#### Hohenfels

The summer reading program will run July 4 to Aug. 15. The theme this year is Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds. Events will include movies, crafts and story hours featuring knights, medieval beasts and ladies fair. He who reads the greatest number of books will receive a prize. For more information, call 466-1740.

#### **Youths**

Vilseck and Grafenwoehr teen centers have planned a variety of summer outings.

• Travel to Nuremberg to see the castle,

visit the toy museum and go shopping June 29. Fee is 7 euros. Sign up by June 25.

- Go swimming in Weiden July 1. Entry is 7 euros. Deadline to register is June 27.
- See the animals at the Munich zoo July 6. Admission is 6 euros for youths and 9 euros for adults. Sign up by July 2.
- Take a skateboarding trip (destination to be announced) July 8. Register for this free excursion by July 2.

For more information about any of the above, call 475-7441 or 476-3575.

#### **Arts and Crafts Centers**

#### Grafenwoehr

- Make a quilted pillow or wall-hanging on your sewing machine July 2 and 9, 9 to 11 a.m. The \$40 fee includes supplies.
- A beginners' quilting class will be taught July 5, 12, 19 and 26, 5: 30 to 7:30 p.m. Supplies are not included in the \$60 fee. Register for either by calling 475-6101.

#### Vilseck

Use wire and beads to make napkin rings and decorate your candle stand or vase July 1, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The fee is \$7.50, not including supplies. To sign up, call 476-2652.

#### Job opportunities

The New Parent Education and Support Program seeks home visitors for Vilseck and Grafenwoehr. Applicants must be licensed and have a master's of social work or a bachelor's of science in nursing, plus two years of field experience. E-mail resumes to mariela.fernandez@ima-e.army.mil or fax to 06221-57-4091 or 370-4091. For more information, call 06221-57-7840 or 370-7840.



#### 'Glory' day

Stephen Lang, who portrayed Maj. Gen. George Pickett in Gettysburg and Lt. Gen. Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson in Gods and Generals, will perform the one-man show Beyond Glory at the Hohenfels **Community Activities Center** July 12, 7 p.m. Adapted from the book of the same name, this play comprises the stories of eight heroes who earned the Medal of Honor in World War II, Korea or Vietnam. The tour is sponsored by the **National Endowment for the** Arts, and admission is free. Call 466-2670/2840 for details.

## Wanted: up-and-comer to rap on safe summer

#### V CORPS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Amateur rappers can show off their syncopated rhyming skills, help their peers stay safe and perhaps win a weekend at Edelweiss Lodge in the process by competing in the V Corps summer safety rap contest.

Entrants must submit an original rap no more than one minute long spotlighting summertime safety themes, such as swimming, boating, biking, motorcycling, grilling or preventing heat injuries. The contest is open to all U.S. ID cardholders.

Prizes will be awarded to the top three entrants. The winner will score a weekend for four at the Edelweiss Lodge and Resort in Garmisch, Germany. The runnerup will receive a \$50 gift certificate from the Army and Air Force Exchange Service. Third place will net five movie passes to AAFES theaters.

Deadline to enter is July 13. For more details and submission guidelines, call the V Corps Safety Office at 370-5665/5673 or 06221-57-5665/5673.

> "That the king can do \_\_\_ wrong is a

necessary and fun-

damental principle

of the English con-

William Blackstone

stitution." — Sir

becoming — but

even. One must be

careful not to look

like a mixed grill."

— Noel Coward

Princes of Wales,

(one word)

collectively

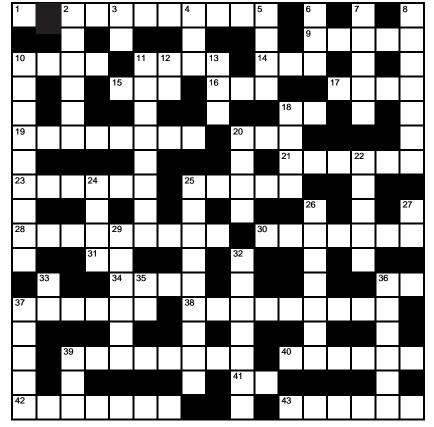
Bathroom

Gasoline

only when it \_

"Sunburn \_\_

The British are coming — the British!' called Colonist Paul Revere. This pre-Independence Day puzzle will prove that they are indeed here.



#### Across

- Zed 1
- 2 Exhausted
- 9 Once 12 to a shilling
- Taken in pubs 10
- Enclosed grounds 'round manor
- Hail-fellow-well-
- or chummy 15 Nonsense
- "For a picnic for 40 persons ... if it can be managed, take a little \_\_\_\_." Mrs. Beeton's Victorian

Cookbook

- 17 Elevator
- "The British ... are the only people who like \_\_\_ be told how bad things are, who like \_\_\_ be told the worst." — Winston Churchill (one word)

- Bergamot-infused beverage
- Now named "euro," still opposed in favor of pound (abbr.)
- Suspenders
- What Duke and Duchess of Windsor were
- as an angel is the English child." - William Blake King who lost
- Colonies
- Griddle cake or comely girl
- "Yes" for Queen Victoria's grandsonin-law, Czar
- Nicholas II Cromwell ruled during Parliament's with House of Stuart
- 36 John Major, e.g. (abbr.)
- Chase fox during hunt Oxford's greatest rival
- "We have really everything in common with America nowadays, except, of course, \_\_\_

— Oscar Wilde

- 40 First king
- 41 H \_\_\_\_, title of all British monarchs (abbr.)
- Played on billiard table

#### 43 Umbrella

- Down 2 Herring, salted and smoked
  - "It's a mad world. Mad \_\_\_\_ Bedlam." Charles Dickens' Dombey and Son
- "Then England's ground, farewell; sweet soil, adieu. My mother and my nurse that bears me yet! Where \_\_\_ I wander, boast of this I can: Though banished, yet a trueborn Englishman. - Richard II,
- William Shakespeare Lord's wife or daughter
- A flat in America (abbr.)
- Whence curry came Staged second British invasion
- 10 Gold coin once worth a pound
- Oatmeal
- "Stands the Church 12 clock \_\_\_\_ ten to three? And is there honey still for tea?" — The Old Vicarage, Grantchester, Rupert Brooke

- 13 Title character created by Rudyard Kipling
- Subway 20 Beowulf, e.g.
- 22 Men
- 24 Wellington one
- 25 Vest 26 Figgy at
- Christmastime \_ George he was for England, and before he killed the dra-
- gon, he drank a pint of English ale out of an English flagon." -Gilbert Chesterton's The Englishman
- 29 Yard, front or back
- 32 Sweaters

- BROLLY 2 N O O K E B E G B U R T LANGUAGE CAMBRIDGE  $\exists |T| \mid H \mid W$ E C N A R L G R E Y ΟT T | 3 | M P A R K

#### Flag-waving fun run

Soldiers, civilians and family members in Grafenwoehr are invited to get a head start on Independence Day at the 7th Army Training Command's community fun run July 1, beginning in the Tower Theater parking lot at 7 a.m.

Runners, walkers and stroller-pushers are welcome, along with well-behaved pets on leashes. Attire is American patriotic, and refreshments will be provided afterward.

For more information, contact Sgt. Maj. Charles Cook at 475-7675 or charles.s.cook@graf.eur.army.mil.

#### Army 10-Miler

Grafenwoehr will host the Installation Management Agency-Europe's qualification 10-mile run July 16. Registration will be conducted 6:30 to 8:30 a.m., and the event will start at 9.

All U.S. ID cardholders are eligible to enter. The top eight activeduty runners of each gender will advance to the Army 10-Miler in Washington, D.C., Oct. 2.

Register online at www.100thasg. mwr.army.mil/srd. For more information, call 370-7944.

#### Soldiers' tourney

The unit-level Triple Eliminator Softball Tournament is set for July 1 to 3 in Grafenwoehr.

The field is limited to the first 10 entrants, and deadline to register is June 24.

Teams should consist of 18 players and two coaches.

Call 475-8361 or 476-2214 for details.

#### Race winners

Twelve runners participated in a Hohenfels fun run June 11.

In the women's five-kilometer event, Heidi Witty placed first, followed by Annelise Shrader.

Among the men, Odis Robinson won, and Jason Shrader came in second.

Kimberly Daniels was declared winner of the women's 10 K.

In the men's category, Dan Bailey crossed the finish line first, and David Witty was runner-up.

#### Roundup results

The German-American Sport and Friendship Fest Rodeo June 11 and 12 in Schmidmuehlen featured 200 competitors in 10 events.

Winners were as follows: bull riding, Florian Schneider; bareback riding, Mike Wycough; breakaway calf roping, Sabine Dowell; barrel racing, Sarah Bley; rescue race – rider, Claudia Priem; and rescue race - rescued, Bernd Hochgreve.

In the wild horse race, top spots went to anchor, Peter Tatzel; mugger, Frank Korn; rider, Tilo Erhardt; and pole bender, Tina Engel.

## <u>Playtime</u> Students trounce teachers in Hohenfels

BY ALICE ADLER TRAINING TIMES STAFF

The name of the game was fun when a group of schoolchildren from Hohenfels Elementary took on teachers and staff in a student-faculty basketball bout June 8.

Action was fast as the two teams raced up and down the court. Their elders had the height, but the youths had the speed, making the sides fairly well-matched. In the end, the students came out on top, besting the faculty by a narrow margin.

Student council vice president Jimmy Calhoun Jr., who had played in a similar event at his school in Japan, hatched the idea for the matchup with fellow sixth-graders. He pitched it to the student council, which presented it to school officials.

"The teachers loved the idea," said Calhoun. "They knew they would have a fun time. The kids were excited; they wanted to beat the teachers.'

Cynthia Nicholson, school counselor and student council sponsor, attested,

"The response was overwhelming. Over 120 kids signed up."

When they met their opponents, the students were pumped up.

"They gave us a lot of homework, so it's time to beat them!" cheered Aleah Washington.

The faculty's obvious slam-dunk advantage did not worry them.

"We may be little on the outside," Kiera Fields said, "but we're big on the inside." From the on-court shenanigans to the spontaneous dancing during halftime, both teams showed they were in it for the thrill of competition.

"I thoroughly enjoyed it," said Nicholson.

"I really had fun," echoed sixth-grade teacher Tracy Stockdale.

The youths rejoiced in their victory, which Tanisha Knight summed up, saying, "I like playing against the old folks."

As the crowd thinned out and the students headed home, Nicholson eyed her teammates and said, "We're going to need some Icy Hot."



Jimmy Calhoun, a second-grade teacher in Hohenfels, tries to dribble past sixth-grader Seth Bovee June 8.

## Youths get crash course in great outdoors

BY CHRISTINE MITCHELL SIXTH GRADE

Kenneth Wojcik and David Nelson, teachers at Vilseck Elementary School, sponsored an outdoor-education program for 40 fifth- and sixth-grade students May 24 to 26.

To be selected, we wrote essays explaining why we wanted to participate and what we thought we would gain. Those of us who were chosen for the outdoor experience found it valuable, because it showed we could do things we were not sure we could do.

"It was a very fun and ... demanding experience," said fifth-grader Aaron Hunt. "I'd really like to do it again sometime."

Over the long weekend, we learned responsibility, self-confidence, reliability and teamwork. We were also put through a series of physical activities, such as rope climbing, rappelling, canoeing, hiking and map reading for a land-navigation course, with a partner or a team.

When my group first saw the 40-foot-high ropes course, we were all excited, and we were sure we could do it. Once we were up on the platform,



however, not all of us had such a positive opinion of a balance beam made from rope. Most pulled through and did it, though. It was an excellent experience that promoted selfFifth-grader Brittany Burns climbs a 40-foot pole to reach the high ropes at the Tännesberg Outdoor Training Area, near Weiden. The course was part of a program for 40 Vilseck Elementary School students May 24 to 26.

Photo by David Nelson

confidence and reliance on our team members.

My favorite activity was river canoeing. Three of our eight canoes managed not to tip over into the freezing cold water. This was a major teamwork event.

Every day we had breakfast and dinner at the Vilseck post dining facility, and we chose an Army MRE, or meal ready-to-eat, for lunch. Most of us felt very sympathetic for the Soldiers who eat those every day.

After a late finish in the evenings, we overnighted in the cabins on Big Mike Lake and had an early start in the mornings. At the end of each day, we slept extremely well.

## Rival softball players end latest meet in draw

BY KATHY JORDAN TRAINING TIMES STAFF

Support Group squared off on Little Mike Softball Field in Vilseck

The men played two games and split the contest, with Vilseck winning the first game, 15-14, and Grafenwoehr the second, 24-12.

Statistics for the first game were, for Vilseck, Kevin Jordan, three for four with two home runs; Christopher Leota, three for four with a run; and Kenneth Ramer, three for four with a walk; for Grafenwoehr, Robert Hickox, four for four with two runs; Donald Jackson, four

for four with a run; and Miguel Martinez and Rodney Moffet, Men's teams from the 100th Area each two for four with one run.

> Stats in the second game: for Grafenwoehr, Jorge Carrero, four for four with three home runs; Rodney Moffet, three for four with a home run; and Chad Gerrau and Martinez, both three for four; for Vilseck, Michael Rosser, two for three with two home runs: Frank McKoy, three for three with a walk; and Derman Garrett, Bryant Gonzalez, Jordan and Alfonso Ochoa, all two for three.

> > •••••

Vilseck softball teams of both

sexes traveled to Wuerzburg for games May 20.

first, the score was 14-9. For Vilseck, Jordan, Ochoa and Ramer were all three for four, and for their opponents, Chris Pfahl was four for four, while Ruben Mejia and LaBoyd Spradley were three for four.

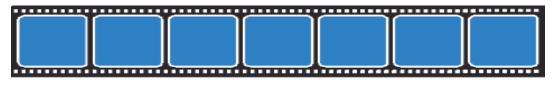
Game two was closer: 17-13. Jordan was three for four with a home run, and Garrett and Gonzalez were each three for four. For Wuerzburg, Pfahl and Jason Reed were four for four, and Shane Peckham, three for four.

The women's team won their opening bout, 11-5, but lost the

second, 11-9. In game one, stats for Vilseck were Kathy Jordan, The men lost two matches. In the three for four with a home run; Liz Martin, three for four; and Resa Sergent, two for four with a home run; for Wuerzburg, Kim Hawn, two for four, and Cathy Lobjois and Hollie Norton, each two for three.

> During the next contest, Jordan was four for four with two walks, Bridgette Peterson was three for four, and Terri Motton, Tonia Ramer and Sergent were all two for four. Among their opponents, Tammy Harris was three for four with a home run, and Hawn, Lobjois, Glo McCleary and Norton were two for four.

# now showing



Unless otherwise noted, the theaters in Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels are closed on Mondays and Tuesdays, and movies begin at 7 p.m. Because schedules are subject to change by local theaters, please telephone for verification.

#### Hohenfels, General Patton (09472-83-1790)

Wednesday, June 22 Guess Who (PG-13) Thursday, June 23 Madagascar (PG) Sin City (R) Friday, June 24 Saturday, June 25 Fever Pitch (PG-13) Sunday, June 26

Diary of a Mad Black Woman (PG-13)

Wednesday, June 29 Be Cool (PG-13) Thursday, June 30 *The Longest Yard* (PG-13) Friday, July 1 Batman Begins (PG-13) Saturday, July 2 The Honeymooners (PG-13) Sunday, July 3 1 p.m. Robots (PG) Hostage (R)

#### Grafenwoehr, Camp Aachen (09641-83-6115)

The theater does not regularly screen films because of its limited use by troops. Tune in to AFN Bavaria for

announcements or phone to hear a recording.

#### Grafenwoehr, Tower (09641-83-1790)

Guess Who (PG-13) Wednesday, June 22 Thursday, June 23 Sin City (R) Friday, June 24 Madagascar (PG) Saturday, June 25 The Longest Yard (PG-13) Sunday, June 26 Fever Pitch (PG-13) Wednesday, June 29 Be Cool (PG-13) Thursday, June 30 Fever Pitch (PG-13) Friday, July 1 Sisterhood of the Traveling

Pants (PG)

Saturday, July 2 King's Ransom (PG-13) Sunday, July 3 Hostage (R)

Vilseck, Mike Jurkewicz

(09662-83-1790) Tuesday, June 21 Hostage (R) Wednesday, June 22 Man of the House (PG-13) Thursday, June 23 Be Cool (PG-13) The Longest Yard (PG-13) Friday, June 24 Saturday, June 25 6:30 p.m. Madagascar (PG) 9 p.m. King's Ransom (PG-13)

Sunday, June 26 Robots (PG) Monday, June 27 Fever Pitch (PG-13) Hostage (R) Tuesday, June 28 Wednesday, June 29 Beauty Shop (PG-13) Thursday, June 30 Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous (PG-13)

Mr. and Mrs. Smith (PG-13)

Friday, July 1 **Saturday, July 2** 6:30 p.m. *Miss Congeniality 2: Armed* and Fabulous (PG-13)

9 p.m. Sin City (R)

Sunday, July 3 1 p.m. The Hitchhiker's Guide to the

Galaxy (PG)

The Longest Yard (PG-13)

Monday, July 4 The Interpreter (PG-13)

#### previews • previews •

#### **Batman Begins**

Starring Christian Bale, Michael Caine, Liam Neeson The origins of the Batman legend and the Dark Knight's emergence as a force for good are revealed in this prequel.

Starring Queen Latifah, Alicia Silverstone, Djimon Hounsou The head hairdresser from *Barbershop* moves to Atlanta, where she opens her own salon with a colorful crew.

#### Be Cool

Starring John Travolta, Vince Vaughn, Uma Thurman In this sequel to *Get Shorty*, the loan shark-turned-movie producer tries his hand at the music industry.

#### Diary of a Mad Black Woman

Starring Kimberly Elise, Tyler Perry, Steve Harris A woman's seemingly perfect life is turned upside-down when her husband announces he wants a divorce.

#### Fever Pitch

Starring Drew Barrymore, Jimmy Fallon, Lenny Clarke This American adaptation of Nick Hornby's popular British novel switches soccer for baseball and shows how a fan's passion for it makes his girlfriend feel like a minor-leaguer.

#### **Guess Who**

Starring Bernie Mac, Ashton Kutcher, Zoe Saldana In this update of the 1967 classic Guess Who's Coming to Dinner, a wealthy black banker is displeased when his beloved daughter's new boyfriend turns out to be white.

#### The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy

Starring Martin Freeman, Sam Rockwell, Mos Def The dramatization of the five-book series thrusts a British everyman into intergalactic intrigue when aliens destroy Earth to make room for a transuniversal highway.



Martin Freeman (center) thumbs his way through outer space in The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy.

#### The Honeymooners

Starring Cedric the Entertainer, Mike Epps, Regina Hall The irascible bus driver and his best friend from the popular 1950s television series make their way to the big screen.

#### Hostage

Starring Bruce Willis, Kevin Pollack, Jonathan Tucker A traumatized ex-hostage negotiator serving as sheriff finds himself in another crisis when hoodlums shoot a policeman.

#### The Interpreter

Starring Nicole Kidman, Sean Penn, Catherine Keener When a UN interpreter overhears an assassination's being planned, she becomes caught in a web of subterfuge.

#### King's Ransom

Starring Anthony Anderson, Jay Mohr, Regina Hall A boorish, egomaniacal billionaire falls victim to a kidnapping plot arranged by his acquaintances to take him for all he's worth and teach him a valuable lesson.

#### The Longest Yard

Starring Adam Sandler, Chris Rock, Burt Reynolds A professional quarterback and a college football star doing time in the same prison draft a team of inmates.

#### Madagascar

#### Animated

A group of blissfully coddled zoo animals strikes off to explore the world.

#### Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous

Starring Sandra Bullock, Regina King, Enrique Murciano The FBI agent-cum-beauty queen leaves the talk show circuit to rescue the kidnapped pageant winner and its emcee.

#### Mr. and Mrs. Smith

Starring Brad Pitt, Angelina Jolie, Kerry Washington A seemingly ordinary suburban couple is actually a duo of well-paid, highly efficient contract killers, each of whom has been hired to murder the other.

#### **Robots**

Animated

A young inventor who dreams of making the world a better place takes on a corporate tyrant.

Starring Bruce Willis, Jaime King, Frank Miller This piece of film noir set in a graphically violent world where it is eternally nighttime interweaves three crime stories.

#### Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants

Starring Amber Tamblyn, America Ferrera, Alexis Bledel A pair of pants sent around the world by a quartet of teenage girls brings each good fortune.

Want to COLOR your community? Send information out via

## usaggnews@graf.eur.army.mil and 475-NEWS

or 475-6397. Find us on the Grafenwoehr Global at USAG-G PAO Grafenwoehr.